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Approved For Release 2001/11/23 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001400480007-

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181244

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. **12** APR 11 1948

SUBJECT Economic Information: Malin, Manchuria

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1C

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED] 25X1A
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. In October 1947 the population of Hulin (133-37, 45-59) was 49,000, of which 1,500 were Soviet engineers, surveyors, technicians and laborers. The population constantly increases as more Soviet citizens come to the city and as large numbers of Chinese from the Harbin, Chiamussu (130-21, 46-49) and Linkou (130-16, 45-18) areas move to Hulin. The Soviet workers began to arrive in March 1946 to construct military installations. Many of them live with Chinese, while others occupy homes which were taken by force from the Chinese inhabitants.
2. Although salmon and carp fishing on the Ussuri and Muling Rivers is flourishing, the Chinese inhabitants of Hulin do not benefit since the fishing and navigation rights on the rivers have been given to the Soviets.
3. The three currencies circulating in Hulin are Soviet military currency, Chinese Communist army currency (?Communist Northeast bank notes), and a limited number of notes of the puppet Manchukuo state. The rate of exchange for these currencies is:

- 1 Soviet note to 4 Communist notes
1 Soviet note to 10 Manchukuo notes
2 Communist notes to 5 Manchukuo notes

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4. Since the Chinese factory owners in Hulin feared that they would be forced out of business by Communist taxes or confiscation, they appointed Soviet managers for their factories or formed joint Soviet-Chinese managements. This enabled the Soviets to take control of the factories. In Hulin there are two cooking oil plants, three tanneries, one soap factory and several rice mills.
5. Although certain staples are limited, most commodities are plentiful and can be easily purchased. Imports to Hulin from the USSR and exports to the USSR from Hulin go through Harbin, Chianussu and Mutanchiang (129-37, 44-35). Among the regular imports from the USSR are Soviet-made pottery, leather goods, tobacco, drugs and glassware. Sea foods are brought to Hulin from North Korea via Tumen (129-49, 42-58) and Hunchun (130-22, 42-52). The prices in Communist yuan of the chief staples and some commodities are:

Rice	550-700 per catty
Kaoliang	450-600 " "
Millet	500-650 " "
Tex. cups (Soviet-made)	300-700 each

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Document No. 07

NO CHANGE in Class. ☒

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Approved For Release 2001/11/23 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001400480007-77/1763

Date: 11/07/78 By: 029

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Cotton cloth (Soviet-made)	2,000-4,000	per foot
Cotton cloth (from Harbin)	2,500-3,500	" "
Shoes (Soviet-made)	7,000-15,000	per pair
Shoes (Hulin-made)	5,000-13,000	" "
Cigarettes (Soviet-made)	1,500-4,000	per carton
Cigarettes (from Harbin)	2,500-4,500	" "
Cigarettes (from North Korea)	3,500-5,500	" "
Seaweed (from North Korea)	5,000	per package
Dried Fish (from North Korea)	3,000-4,000	per catty
Fresh Fish (from North Korea)	1,000-1,500	" "

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